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## Certificate

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE  
AND INDUSTRY

Hiermee word gesertifiseer dat

This is to certify that the documents annexed hereto are true copies of:

Application forms P.1 and P.3, provisional specification and drawings of South African Patent Application No. 99/7273 as originally filed in the Republic of South Africa on 23 November 1999 in the name of MARCELLO POGGIOLINI for an invention entitled: "DEVICE FOR FRAMING AN ARTICLE".

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September 2000

  
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Registrar of Patents

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
PATENTS ACT, 1978  
APPLICATION FOR A PATENT  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT  
(Section 30(1) Regulation 22)

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
FORM P.1 REVENUE  
(to be lodged in duplicate)

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THE GRANT OF A PATENT IS HEREBY REQUESTED BY THE UNDERMENTIONED APPLICANT  
ON THE BASIS OF THE PRESENT APPLICATION FILED IN DUPLICATE

REPUBLIC VAN SUID AFRIKA

21 01 PATENT APPLICATION NO 997273

A&A REF: HAZ374670

71 FULL NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S)

POGGIOLINI, Marcello

ADDRESS(ES) OF APPLICANT(S)

107 WILDEVY AVENUE, LYNNWOOD MANOR, 0081, PRETORIA, GAUTENG PROVINCE, PATENTS, DESIGNS,  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TRADE MARKS AND COPYRIGHT

54 TITLE OF INVENTION

DEVICE FOR FRAMING AN ARTICLE

Only the items marked with an "X" in the blocks below are applicable.

☐ THE APPLICANT CLAIMS PRIORITY AS SET OUT ON THE ACCOMPANYING FORM P.2. The earliest priority claimed is

Country:

No:

Date:

☐ THE APPLICATION IS FOR A PATENT OF ADDITION TO PATENT APPLICATION NO 21 01

☐ THIS APPLICATION IS A FRESH APPLICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 37 AND BASED ON  
APPLICATION NO 21 01

THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY:

- ☒ A single copy of a provisional specification of 9 pages
- ☒ Drawings of 3 sheets
- ☐ Publication particulars and abstract (Form P.8 in duplicate) (for complete only)
- ☐ A copy of Figure of the drawings (if any) for the abstract (for complete only)
- ☐ An assignment of invention
- ☐ Certified priority document(s) (State quantity)
- ☐ Translation of the priority document(s)
- ☐ An assignment of priority rights
- ☐ A copy of Form P.2 and the specification of RSA Patent Application No 21 01
- ☒ Form P.2 in duplicate
- ☒ A declaration and power of attorney on Form P.3
- ☐ Request for ante-dating on Form P.4
- ☐ Request for classification on Form P.9
- ☐ Request for delay of acceptance on Form P.4
- ☐ Extra copy of informal drawings (for complete only)

74 ADDRESS FOR SERVICE: Adams & Adams, Pretoria

Dated this 23RD day of NOVEMBER 1999

*Adams & Adams*

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APPLICANTS PATENT ATTORNEYS

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proof of lodging but is not valid unless endorsed with official stamp

REGISTRAR OF PATENTS, DESIGNS, TRADE MARKS AND COPYRIGHT
1999 -11- 23
REGISTRATEUR VAN PATENTE, MODELLE, HANDELSMERKE EN OUTEURSREG

(Section 30 - Regulation 8, 22(i)(c) and 33)

PATENT APPLICATION NO		
21	01	997273

A&amp;A Ref: V13746

LODGING DATE	
22	23 NOVEMBER 1999

FULL NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S)	
71	POGGIOLINI, Marcello

FULL NAME(S) OF INVENTOR(S)	
72	POGGIOLINI, Marcello

EARLIEST PRIORITY CLAIMED		COUNTRY		NUMBER		DATE	
		33	NIL	31	NIL	32	NIL

NOTE: The country must be indicated by its International Abbreviation - see schedule 4 of the Regulations

TITLE OF INVENTION		REGISTRAR OF PATENTS, DESIGNS, TRADE MARKS AND COPYRIGHT
54	DEVICE FOR FRAMING AN ARTICLE	1999 -11- 23
I/We POGGIOLINI, Marcello		REGISTRATEUR VAN PATENTE, MODELLE, HANDELSMERKE EN OUTEURSREG

hereby declare that :-

1. I/we am/are the applicant(s) mentioned above;

\*\* 2. ~~I/we have been authorized by the applicant(s) to make this declaration and have knowledge of the facts herein stated in the capacity of~~ of the applicant(s);

\*\*\* 3. the inventor(s) of the abovementioned invention is/are the person(s) named above and the applicant(s) has/have acquired the right to apply by virtue of an assignment from the inventor(s);

4. to the best of my/our knowledge and belief, if a patent is granted on the application, there will be no lawful ground for the revocation of the patent;

\*\*\*\* 5. ~~this is a convention application and the earliest application from which priority is claimed as set out above is the first application in a convention country in respect of the invention claimed in any of the claims; and~~

6. the partners and qualified staff of the firm of ADAMS &amp; ADAMS, patent attorneys, are authorised, jointly and severally, with powers of substitution and revocation, to represent the applicant(s) in this application and to be the address for service of the applicant(s) while the application is pending and after a patent has been granted on the application.

SIGNED THIS 22ND DAY OF NOV 1999

1999

POGGIOLINI, Marcello

(no legalization necessary)

\* In the case of application in the name of a company, partnership or firm, give full names of signatory/signatories, delete paragraph 1, and enter capacity of each signatory in paragraph 2.

\*\* If the applicant is a natural person, delete paragraph 2.

\*\*\* If the right to apply is not by virtue of an assignment from the inventor(s), delete "an assignment from the inventor(s)" and give details of acquisition of right.

\*\*\*\* For non-convention applications, delete paragraph 5.

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FORM P6

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
Patents Act, 1978

**PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION**

(Section 30 (1) - Regulation 27)

21	01	OFFICIAL APPLICATION NO
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997273

22	LODGING DATE
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23 NOVEMBER 1999

71	FULL NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S)
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POGGIOLINI, Marcello

72	FULL NAME(S) OF INVENTOR(S)
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POGGIOLINI, Marcello

54	TITLE OF INVENTION
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DEVICE FOR FRAMING AN ARTICLE

THIS INVENTION relates to a device for framing an article. It also relates to a frame component for a picture frame and to a method of assembly of a picture frame.

5 Certain conventional picture frames typically include an outer frame within which is mounted a cardboard panel such as matt board or the like with a central aperture. The panel has a viewer side and a rear side and an article is usually mounted within the aperture so that the panel defines a boarder between the article and the outer frame. A decorative beading may be attached about a periphery of the article,  
10 typically by means of a chemical adhesive, to the rear side of the panel to enhance the appearance of the frame.

According to the invention, there is provided a device for framing an article, the device including  
an outer frame component;  
15 an outer panel including a rear side and a viewer side and defining an aperture, the outer panel being mounted within the outer frame component;

an inner frame component which is arranged to be seated in the aperture so that it overlaps with a peripheral region of the viewer side, the article being mounted within the inner frame component; and

transparent sheet material mounted to a frame component and covering the article.

The outer panel may define an outer panel arrangement including at least two sub-panels, e.g. of different colours, which are arranged in a face-to-face abutting fashion and each of which may define apertures of different magnitudes. The outer frame component may be a conventional article frame such as a picture frame or the like. The transparent sheet material is typically a sheet of glass about which the outer frame component extends.

The device may include an inner panel which is located or locatable within the inner frame component. The inner panel typically defines an aperture within which the article may be mounted. The inner panel may be an inner panel arrangement comprising at least two sub-panels, and the inner panel may define a boarder between the article and the inner frame component. The inner panel may have a rear side and a viewer side and the inner frame component is typically seated in the aperture of the outer panel arrangement so that it overlaps the peripheral region of its viewer side and it overlaps with an outer peripheral region of the viewer side of the inner panel arrangement.

Accordingly, the inner frame component may define outer and inner abutment surfaces which overlap, typically in an abutting fashion, the outer and inner panels respectively. In certain embodiments,

the outer and inner abutment surfaces are coplanar. In other embodiments, the abutment surfaces lie in spaced planes so that, in use, the inner and outer panels lie in spaced planes.

5 The inner frame component may include a concealed portion and an exposed portion which overlaps the inner peripheral region of the outer panel, as well as the outer peripheral region of the inner panel or article as the case may be. In certain embodiments, the inner frame component defines a T-shaped profile in which, when viewed in cross-section, the vertical component of the T-shaped profile corresponds with  
10 the concealed portion and the horizontal component corresponding with the exposed portion. Accordingly, the concealed component may be positioned between the inner and outer panels. The exposed portion may include a visible decorative pattern.

15 The inner frame component may be composite in nature. For example, the inner component is typically rectangular in outline and formed from four interconnected members e.g. which have been stapled together.

Further in accordance with the invention, there is provided a method of assembling a picture frame, the method including  
20 locating an inner frame component between an inner and an outer panel of the frame so that inner and outer abutment surfaces of the inner frame component abut an inner peripheral region of the outer panel and an outer peripheral region of the inner panel respectively;  
mechanically fastening the inner and outer panels from rear sides  
25 of the panels to the inner frame component; and

locating transparent sheet material over the inner frame component.

Mechanical fastening of the panels may be by way of staples, tabs which are bent, or the like.

5 The invention is now described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 shows a front view of a picture frame in accordance with the invention;

10 Figure 2 shows a three-dimensional bottom view of part of the frame of Figure 1 taken at II-II;

Figure 3 shows a three-dimensional view of an inner frame component of the frame of Figure 1;

15 Figure 4 shows a three-dimensional view of a further embodiment of an inner frame component;

Figure 5 shows a side view of the inner frame component of Figure 4; and

Figure 6 shows a side view of a yet further embodiment of an inner frame component.

20 Referring to the drawings, reference numeral 10 generally indicates a picture frame or device, in accordance with the invention, for framing an article. The frame 10 includes an outer panel 12 and an inner panel 14 which are separated by an inner frame component 16. The outer



panel 12 defines an aperture or opening 18 in which the inner frame component 16 is seated as described in more detail below.

5 The outer frame component 12 is typically matt board or any other cardboard sheet which is typically used in conventional picture framing applications. In a conventional manner, the opening 18 is formed by removing a central portion (not shown) from the outer panel 12. The outer panel 12 has a rear side 12.1 (see Figure 2) and a viewer side 12.2 (see Figures 1 and 2) and is mounted in a conventional outer frame 20 (only shown in Figure 1) including a sheet of glass 21. As in 10 the case of the outer panel 12, the inner panel 14 includes a rear side 14.1 (see Figure 2) and a viewer side 14.2 (see Figures 1 and 2). A further opening 22 is formed in the inner panel 14 for receiving an article to be framed e.g. a certificate, photograph or the like. It is to be appreciated that, in certain embodiments, the outer panel 12 and inner 15 panel 14 may each be composite in nature defining outer and inner panel arrangements comprising a plurality of matt boards or cardboard panels arranged with apertures or openings of various sizes and located in an abutting fashion.

20 The inner frame component 16 is composite in nature including four interconnected members 16.1 to 16.4 which are cut from a length of material. Each component 16.1 to 16.4 is cut to an appropriate length depending upon the magnitude or size of the frame 10 so that its ends are cut at 45° and interconnected in a conventional fashion by means of staples 24 (only one of which is shown in Figure 2 25 of the drawings) to define a rectangular framelike component. The component 16 has a concealed portion 26 (see Figures 2 and 3) and an

upper decorative portion 28 which defines abutment surfaces 30, 32. The opening 18 in the outer panel 12 is shaped and dimensioned so that the inner frame component 16 is seated therein so that the abutment surface 30 abuts an inner peripheral end region 34 (see Figures 1 and 2) of the outer panel 12. In a similar fashion, the inner panel 14 is shaped and dimensioned to be received within the inner frame component 16 so that its outer peripheral end region 36 abuts the abutment surface 32. Accordingly, the inner frame component 16 is positioned between the outer panel 12 and the inner panel 14 in such a fashion so that its abutment surfaces 30, 32 abut the viewer sides 12.2, 14.2 respectively. Accordingly, inaccuracies in forming or cutting the opening 18 or an outer peripheral edge 38 of the inner panel 14 are concealed by the inner frame component 16.

Unlike conventional decorative components which are used as a border between different cardboard panels in a conventional picture frame, which conventional components include a single abutment surface which is typically attached to a rear or non-visible side of an outer panel by an adhesive which takes time to dry, the outer and inner panels 12, 14 may be stapled from the rear sides 12.1, 14.1 by means of conventional staples 40 to the inner frame component 16. In addition or instead, conventional tabs 42 may be used to secure the inner frame component 16 to the outer panel 12 and/or the inner panel 14.

As is clearly seen in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings, abutment surfaces 30, 32 of the inner frame component 16 lie in the same plane 44. Accordingly, the outer and inner panels 12, 14 also lie in the same plane 44. Referring in particular to Figures 4 to 6 of the

drawings, reference numerals 60 and 70 generally indicate further embodiments of inner frame components. The inner frame components 60, 70 resemble the inner frame component 16 and, accordingly, like reference numerals have been used to indicate the same or similar features unless otherwise indicated.

As in the case of the inner frame component 16, the inner frame component 60 includes a decorative portion 28 and a concealed portion 26. However, unlike the inner frame component 16, the inner frame component 60 has its abutment surfaces 30 in different spaced apart planes 62, 64. Accordingly, dependent upon the orientation of the inner frame component 60 within the opening 18, the inner panel 14 may be sunken or raised so that the outer and inner panels 12, 14 lie in spaced planes. For example, the outer panel 12 may abut the abutment surface 30 and the inner panel 14 may abut the abutment surface 32 to provide a sunken effect as shown in Figure 5 of the drawings.

The inner frame component 70 substantially resembles the inner frame component 60 but differs in that it does not include the concealed portion 26. Accordingly, the abutment surface 32 is larger and the inner panel 14 or artwork may be attached in a similar fashion to the inner frame components 16, 60.

In conventional framing arrangements where a conventional beading is used to enhance the decorative effect of a picture frame, the beading typically includes a single abutment surface which is glued to a non-viewer or rear side 14.1 of the outer panel 12. Accordingly, any imperfections in workmanship in cutting the opening 18 are visible on the

viewer side 12.1. Further, as the outer panel 12 is seated on a peripheral lip of the conventional beading, it is undesirable to use staples 40 or tabs 42 to secure the outer panel 12 to the beading as they would be clearly visible to an observer of the conventional picture frame. Further, elaborate arrangements are required to provide panels in different planes to create a so-called boxlike effect.

However, with the picture frame 10 in accordance with the invention having its inner frame component 16, 60, 70 seated in an abutting fashion on a viewer side 12.2 of the outer panel 12, any imperfections in cutting out the opening 18 are concealed. Further, although an adhesive may be used to secure the inner frame component 16, 60, 70 to the outer panel and/or inner panel 12, 14 respectively, mechanical fasteners such as staples 40 and/or tabs 42 which are not visible from the viewer sides 12.1, 14.1 may be used. Unlike adhesives which require time to dry, the staples 40 and/or the tabs 42 are immediately effective and production or assembly time of the frame 10 is thereby reduced. Further, the inner frame components 60, 70 allow assembly of frames to provide a boxlike effect with relative ease as the abutment surfaces 30, 32 are spaced.

The Inventor believes that the invention, as illustrated, provides an enhanced picture frame 10 in which its inner frame component 16, 60, 70 is seated on peripheral regions 36, 38 of the viewer sides 12.1, 14.1 of the outer and inner panels 12, 14 respectively.

DATED THIS 23RD DAY OF NOVEMBER 1999

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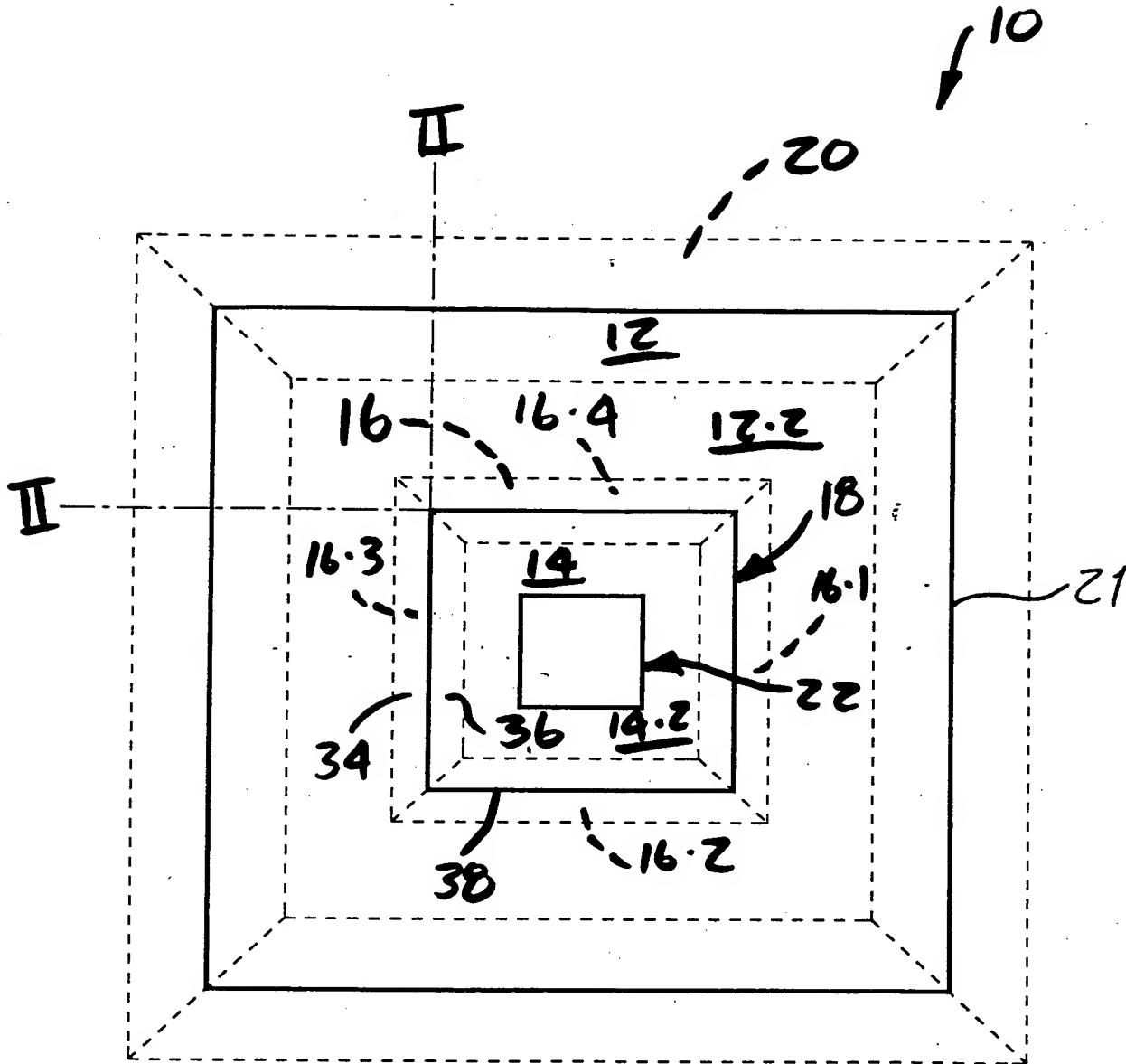
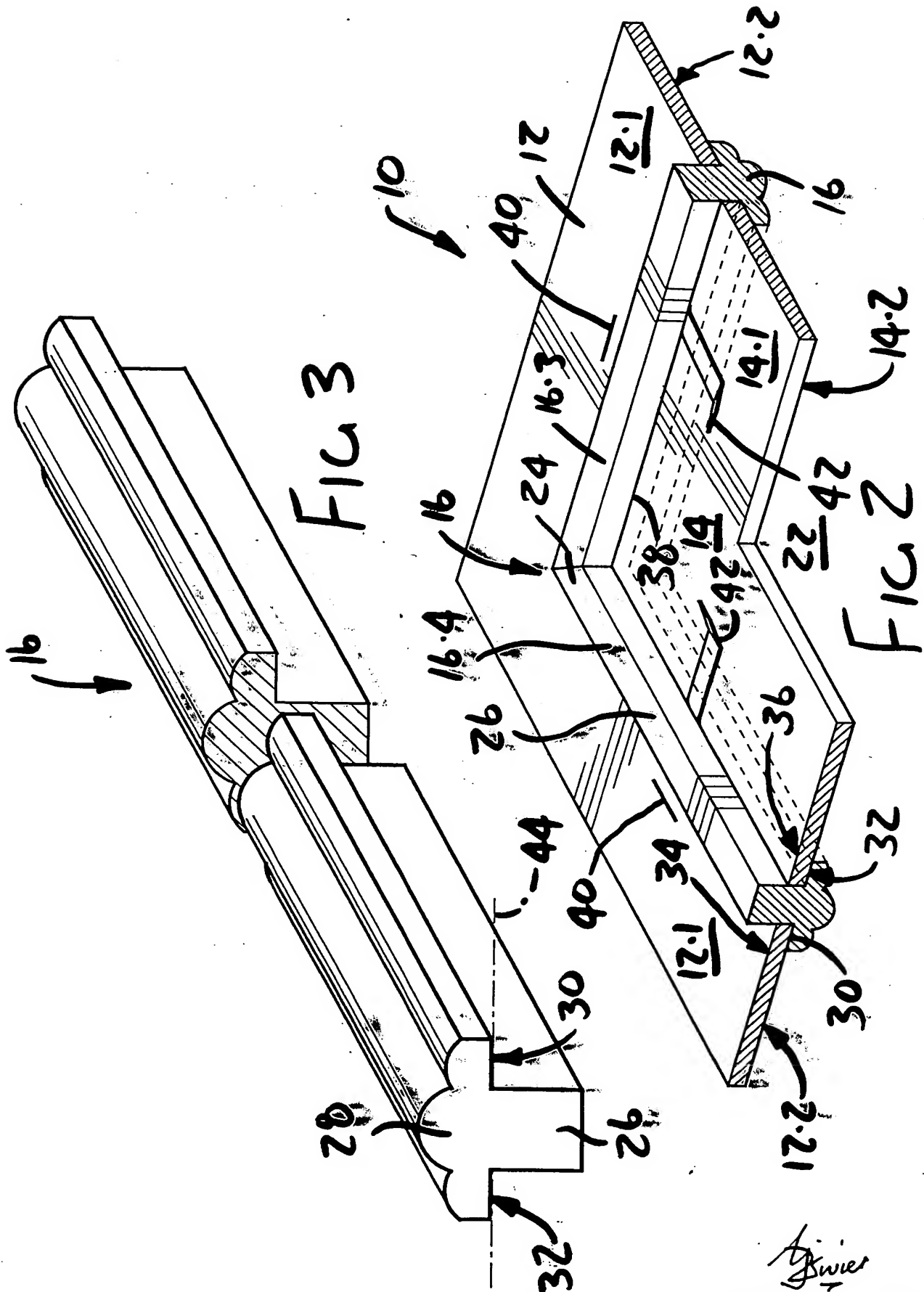


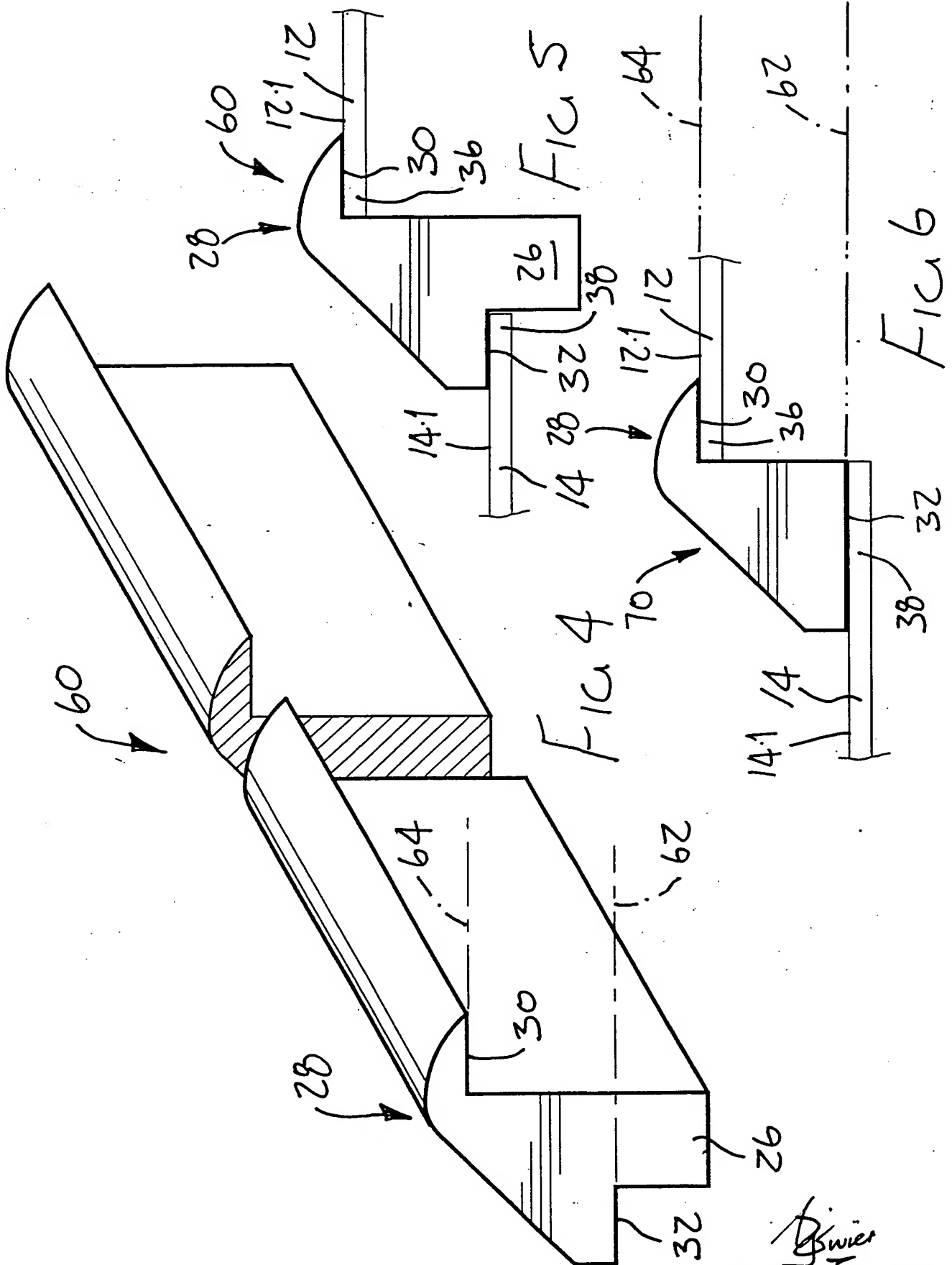
FIG 1

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